Request of Orissa Government on inclusion of certain erstwhile princely States in Jharkhand

1881. SHRI BRATIN SENGUPTA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had received any recommendation on behalf of Government of Orissa regarding merger of the erstwhile princely States of Horikela and Kharsuan at the time of formation of Vananchal (Jharkhand);

(b) whether it would be proper to include Jarhpur district of Chhattisgarh in the State of Jharkhand from geographical point of view so as to ensure its overall development as indicated by Chief Minister in his submission;

(c) if so, Government's reaction thereto; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) Yes Sir. Recommendations of the Government of Orissa were received at the time of introduction of the Bihar Reorganisation Bill, 2000 in the Lok Sabha for merger of the former Princely State of Seraikela and Kharsuan in Bihar with Orissa.

(b) to (d) The Government of India is presently not considering any redrawing of the boundaries of existing States.

Setting up bio-gas plants in Orissa

1882. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state what was the target and the number of bio-gas plants set up in the State of Orissa in Eighth and Ninth Plans?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN): Information on the target and number of family type bio-gas plants set up by the State nodal agency, namely, Orissa

Renewable Energy Development Agency (OREDA) during Eighth and Ninth Plan period under the Central Sector Scheme—National Project on bio-gas Development is given below:—

Period	No. of Plants	
	Target	Achievement
Eighth Plan	54,000	56,184
Ninth Plan	46,500	35,995 (upto to June, 2001)

In addition, Khadi and Village Industries Commission promoted 5,971 plants in the State during the Eighth Plan period. Under the Community, Institutional and Night-soil based Bio-gas Plants programme, against at target of 6 and 28 plants allocated to the State nodal agency for the Eighth and Ninth Plans, respectively, 18 and 5 plants have been set up so far.

Commercial Power Generation from Wind Energy in Rajasthan

1883. SHRI S. RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Rajasthan is the only State to start commercial power generation from wind energy;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Rajasthan Energy Development Agency has not been provided soft loan either from the Central or State Government;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) what steps are being taken to grant soft loans to all the States which are coming up for development of Non-conventional energy sources?